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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Brownlee, et al.

Docket No.: P02074US0

Serial No.: TBA

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed: November 6, 2000

Examiner: TBA

Title: ATTENUATED
INFLUENZA VIRUSES

Box Application
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washing, D.C. 20231

#5/a
5-16-01

FIRST PRELIMINARY ADMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Please enter the following amendments to the claims prior to the examination of the application.

In the claims:

Please amend the following claims.

1. (Amended) An attenuated influenza virus comprising [carrying] a genomic nucleic acid segment which comprises 5' and 3' non-coding regions providing a mutated duplex region of an influenza virus RNA genomic segment operably-linked to a protein coding sequence for an influenza viral protein or a functional modification thereof of said protein, wherein said duplex region is a non-chimeric duplex region, but has at least one base-pair substitution such that expression of said protein-coding sequence in cells infected by said virus is reduced to give an attenuated phenotype.

2. (Amended) [A] The virus [as claimed in] of claim 1, wherein said virus [which] exhibits a reduction in plaque titre compared to the wild-type virus on [cells of] one or